

18 FEB 1950

DOLGELLEY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

For the Year 1949

Medical Officer of Health :

R. W. EDWARDS, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

IDWAL ROBERTS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the Dolgelley Rural District Council.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Now that the County Council are proposing to divide the County into Districts with full-time Medical Officers of Health, it was arranged that Mr. Roberts should report fully on the work for which he is responsible to the Council.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	...	...	...	...	150,128 acres		
Parishes	...	...	...	...	13		
Population...	...	...	...	...	8919	Registrar	General's Esti-
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	2566		[mate
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£27,764		
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	£107/11/5		

Vital Statistics :

LIVE BIRTHS				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	100	56	44
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	1	6

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	...	...	...	2	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	0	1

Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age :

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	2	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	0	2

Rates per Thousand of Estimated Population :

General Death Rate	...	...	...	...	9.75
Total Tuberculosis death rate	...	...	...	...	0.44
" Phthisis " death rate	...	...	...	...	0.44
Cancer death rate	...	...	...	...	1.23
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	11.99
Still Birth rate	...	...	...	...	0.33
Scarlet Fever death rate	...	...	...	...	0.00
Diphtheria death rate	...	...	...	...	0.00

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (live and still births) :

Still Birth rate ...	...	...	...	...	37.38
Maternal mortality total ...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Sepsis ...	...	...	...	...	0.00
Other forms ...	...	...	...	...	0.00

Rates per 1,000 Live Births :

Infant mortality total ...	...	...	...	...	56.07
Legitimate infants ...	...	...	...	...	37.38
Illegitimate infants ...	...	...	...	...	18.74
Diarrhoea under two years ...	...	...	...	...	0.00

Public Health Services : Staff—

Medical Officer of Health ...	...	1 (Part-time)
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor ...	...	1 (full-time)

Ambulance Service :

The Ambulance Service is controlled by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Infectious Disease (Other than Tuberculosis) :

Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cerebro-spinal ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Acute-Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Chicken Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Tuberculosis :

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area, during 1949, are as follows :—

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Resp.</i>		<i>Non-resp.</i>		<i>Resp.</i>		<i>Non-resp.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
45	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Upwards	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	11	—	1	2	2	—	—	—

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area :

These are reported upon in the Sanitary Inspector's section.

The Sanitary Inspector and his staff exercise extreme vigilance in ensuring that the water supplied to the consumer is of satisfactory quality. Those supplies which are filtered and treated are yielding a satisfactory chemical and bacteriological standard.

The Council have in various stages of progress several schemes for supplementing and treating existing supplies : including the provision of schemes for the remaining villages in the District where no supply exists.

It is hoped that much progress can be made to provide a domestic supply to a large number of houses.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the assistance rendered to me by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Idwal Roberts.

I beg to remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. W. EDWARDS,

B.SC., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Cae'rffynnon,
DOLGELLEY.
Sept. 1950.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I beg to place before you my annual report for the year ended 31st December, 1949—

Housing :

Housing accommodation is still a priority need and progress is dependant mostly on the completion of water and sewerage schemes throughout the area.

Housing repairs have received attention and a considerable amount of licenses granted to effect repairs, improvements and extensions to existing properties.

A considerable number of improvements and extensions to existing properties including private water supplies and extensions have been made to small holdings and farms under the provisions of the Hill Farming Act, 1946, in co-operation with the County Agricultural Committee.

Water Supplies :

<i>Villages</i>	<i>Supply</i>	<i>No. of S'ples</i>	<i>Bact. Exam.</i>	<i>Chem. Exam.</i>	<i>Treat- ment</i>	<i>Conn. to Main</i>	<i>To Stand Pipes</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Aberangell	Insufficient	2	Sat.	—	Filter	39	8	Temp. Scheme
Abergyn- olwyn	Sufficient	2	"	—	None	122	5	Satisfactory Maintained
Bontddu	"	1	"	—	"	42	2	" "
Barmouth Junction	"	1	"	Sat.	Filt & Clor.	41	0	" "
Corris	Insufficient	2	Unsat.	—	—	44	4	Scheme sub. to Board
Dinas M'ddwy								" "
Dyffryn	Insufficient	1	Sat.	Sat.	—	269	25	
Ganllwyd	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Scheme in progress
Llanegryn	Insufficient	1	Sat.	Sat.		96	11	
Llanelltyd	"	0	Sat.	—		9	8	" "
Llanfachreth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	" "
Llanymawddwy								" "
Llwyngwrl	Sufficient	1	Sat.	Sat.	Filt & Clor.	207	11	Satisfactory Supply
Talybont	Insufficient	1	"	"	None	54	18	Supply necess.
Taicynhaef	Sufficient	1	"	—	Filter Bed	17	0	Satisfactory Maintained

Drainage and Sewerage :

The existing schemes at Llwyngwrl and Fairbourne were satisfactorily maintained during the year except for an accumulation of sand at the sea outfall. The obstruction was removed by pressure pumps. The matter is kept under observation and pumping increased to keep the mouth of the outfall clear.

Tenders have been accepted and approved by the Board for the construction of sewerage schemes for the villages of Dyffryn and Bontddu. Plans of a sewerage scheme for the village of Abergynolwyn are in an advanced stage and it is expected that a scheme will be commenced in the near future. Surveys are in hand for the preparation of schemes for the remaining villages of the area in accordance with the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Rivers and Streams :

There are no industries in the District to pollute the Rivers and Streams but there are some careless individuals who insist on throwing tins and refuse into the streams. Warning notices are posted up in some localities to prevent this undesirable custom, but it is difficult to abolish it altogether.

Refuse Collection :

The Council have purchased a suitable covered lorry : provided the necessary staff and a number of refuse disposal sites and undertakes by direct labour the scavenging of the built-up villages and houses en-route throughout the area.

Smoke Abatement :

No action was necessary in this respect during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools :

There are no (a) public nor (b) privately owned swimming baths open to the public.

Eradication of Bugs :

No action was necessary during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Total number of formal notices issued	...	...	...	0
Total number of formal notices complied with	...	...	...	0
Total number of informal notices issued	...	...	...	19
Total number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	17
Total number of new houses completed :—				
(d) Local Authority	...	...	...	24
(b) Private Enterprise	...	...	...	3

Number of Plans—New houses	...	...	...	...	14
Buildings	...	...	...	...	15
Visits to Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Notices re defects	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	104
Number of Visits re defects	...	...	...	...	64
Visits to Dairies	...	...	...	...	121
Number of notices re defects	...	...	...	...	38
Notices re removal of ashes	...	...	...	...	9
Removal of manure	...	...	...	...	Nil
Notices re defective drains	...	...	...	...	6
Number of visits to cases of infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	6
Number of defective water fittings	...	...	...	...	19
Of pail closets converted into W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	9

Rural Housing Survey :

The Council have completed the erection of 30 Traditional houses at Llwyngwrl and 8 at Llanegryn. Plans are in preparation for the construction of 4 at Talybont, 12 at Rhoslefain and 6 at Bont-ddu. Sites have also been selected at Llanfachreth, Taicyndhaaf, Dinas Mawddwy and Llanelltyd. House plans have been approved for the erection of 20 Traditional houses at Dyffryn ; but no further progress can be made pending the completion of the new Sewer and Sewerage scheme for the village.

Housing Acts, 1936 :

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	198
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	201
Number of dwelling houses found in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	—
Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	...	39
2. Remedy of defects during year without service of formal notices	...	...	27
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	17
No proceedings were taken under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Acts, 1936.	...	...	

Inspection and Supervision of Food :

The cowsheds and dairies in many cases need improvement in structure to provide better light, increased ventilation, impervious stalls, better water supplies and drainage systems. The difficulties

with the small farms are many, but much improvement has been steadily made to meet modern requirements. On the whole, the cowsheds are clean, periodically limewashed and the standard of milk produced is good.

Meat :

No animals are slaughtered for human consumption in the area. The slaughtering is carried out at the abattoir situated in the Dolgelley Urban Council's Area.

Bakehouses :

All these are small and subject to periodical inspection. They are kept clean and are limewashed at intervals. There are no underground bake-houses.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food :

The work is carried out for this Authority at the Public Health Laboratories, Aberystwyth, both of water and milk.

Workshops :

These are few in number and are very small. They are occupied for the most part by the Owner. Their sanitary conditions are on the whole satisfactory.

Conclusion :

The year 1949 brought changes and new schemes, which I hope will bring added amenity to the District and general satisfaction.

I desire to express to the Council my appreciation for the confidence reposed in me.

I beg to remain

Yours faithfully,

IDWAL ROBERTS,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Victoria Buildings,
DOLGELLEY.
Sept., 1950.





